(b) Apart from assuring remunerative prices for cotton, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme—Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is under implementation in the nine major cotton growing States for increasing its area, production and productivity.

Atrocities on women

*92. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of atrocities on women including bride-burning rape and girl infanticide reported in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to curb such cases?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B CHAVAN): (a) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes including those against women are the responsibility of the State Governments. Available information showing the number of cases of atrocities on women including bride-burning etc. registered during the years 1988, 1989 and 1990 is given in the Statement below Statistics on girls infanticide are not separately collected and compiled by the Central agencies

(b) Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 has been amended to make the provisions more stringent and effective The Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 have been amended by the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act, 1983 to deal effectively not only with dowry death cases but also with cases of cruelty to married women.

According to standing instructions investigation in a dowry death case is to be done by an officer not below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police, the postmortem is to be done by a team of two doctors and disposal of the body is not to be allowed without post-mortem

Instructions have been issued to State Governments from time to time to take effective action for prevention and detection of crimes against women

The Department of Women & Child Development have also taken measures for removal of flaws in existing legislation pertaining to women, setting up of a National Commission on Women and assistance to organisations involved in the uplift of women

STATEMENT

Number of cases registered in the Country under Crimes against Women during the years 1988 to 1990

S. No.	*Crime Head*	*Cases Registered During*		
		1988	*1989*	*1990*
1	2	3	4	5
1	Rape	8706	9150	9517
2	Molestation	17836	20497	20186
3	Kidnapping & Abduction of Women & Girls	9633	11673	11689
4.	Eve-Teasing	10109	9934	8620

1	2	3	4	5
5	Dowry Suicide by Burning . . .	518	477	633
6	Dowry Suicide by other means . .	777	787	846
7	Dowry murder by burning . .	418	418	398
8	Dowry murder by other means .	496	621	480
9	Death U/s 304-B IPC by burning . .	NA	774	950
10	Death U/s 304-B IPC by other means .	NA	1138	1528

NOTE: (1) "NA" stands for Not Available.

(2) Total of 1988 is not comparable with 1989 & 1990 since data on items 9 & 10 are not available for 1988.

(3) Figures are based on monthly crime statistics received from States & UTs and may be treated as provisional.

Indian construction companies in Iraq

*93 DR. AMRIT LAL KALI DAS PATEL.

SHRI SHANKERJI VAGHELA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount due from the Government of Iraq to Indian construction companies for projects undertaken in Iraq or the amount held up in Iraq, as a result of the Gulf War,

(b) the amount due to public sector undertakings separately,

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Iraq,

(d) if so, the reaction of Iraq thereto;

(e) whether some Indian companies are still engaged in projects in Iraq; and

(f) if so, their names and estimated value of the projects undertaken respectively?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) According to information available, as on December 31, 1990, the amount owed by Iraq to Indian construction companies for their projects in Iraq was US$ 577 02 million

(b) The amount due to public sector undertakings is US$ 229.50 million including US$ 32.50 million payable to public sector banks.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Iraq has offered to supply crude oil so that the proceeds can be adjusted towards payment due to Indian companies Such exports would be subject to clearance by the Security Council Sanctions Committee and no clearance has been given so far.

(e) No, Sir

(f) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Out of turn telephone connections

94. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state·

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of telephone connections have been sanctioned during the last six months on the orders of Ministers/ Higher Officers:

(b) the average number of telephone connections being sanctioned generally, on 'out of turn' basis in a year;